Patients At The Sancta Maria Hospital Frequently Include Red Sox Players

by Jan Wigert

Five feet away, students are not familiar with the location of the Sancta Maria Hospital next to Baker House, but many are the Techmen that have asked directions to the hospital—only a small number among us is really acquainted with its many other interesting features of this small community forming an island within our own.

My curiosity was pretty high as I entered the Hospital through the entrance on Memorial Drive. As the door man, the cleanliness of the hospital made the biggest impression on me. But the atmosphere was by no means cold; the chapel on the left seemed to offer a society tendency of the area. Sister Mary Dominica, in the familiar blue and white dress of the Sisters of Charity, and Sister Theresa, in charge of records, could not have been more friendly and so glad to answer any questions that I might have. They explained that the hospital moved to its present site in 1948, before that it was situated across the river in Boston. The Archbishops, they told, was the honorary president of the hospital.

I learned that there are ten sisters in all at the hospital occupying such positions as dietitian, supervision of labor and records, etc. In about one hundred persons, some of whom are doctors associated with MIT, are employed during the three shifts. The staff includes about 150 doctors.

Because Sancta Maria is concerned mainly with surgical medicine, the Sisters explained, there may be as many as eight or nine operations performed in one day at the hospital. The average being about 150 a month. Probably those MIT students who are best acquainted with Sancta Maria are those that have been there as patients themselves. As has been the case several times, students suffering from acute appendicitis have been operated on at the hospital.

But these are far from the most famous persons that have been under treatment at Sancta Maria Hospital. Just last week, former Massachusetts Governor, Paul Dever, was a patient there.

In addition to the Formal Technical Training Program, we have a number of vacation replacement jobs and other temporary positions which are available to college students.

Last summer we hired a total of 750 students from 171 different colleges and universities. Most of these were juniors, or were graduate students about one year away from completing employment requirements.

You can see our program is a fairly substantial one, Walt.

The peaceful beauty of the hospital chapel in which many have stopped to give thanks for the warm days of this busy little hospital.

It used to be, I was told, that many MIT students used the chapel in the hospital, until the present chapel on campus was built. I heard only praise for these students. "The glee of some was exciting," Sister said. "I asked if some of the going on didn't ever disturb them. "No," she said, "it always seems pretty quiet, and the students have always been very nice to us."

PATTERNS

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